

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for mounting a camera relative to a portable computer having a first housing, and a second housing, movable relative the first housing, having a front portion for a screen, and having a rear portion opposite the front portion, comprising:

a base adhered to the rear portion;

a camera holder removably connected to the base by cooperating first and second mating members;

wherein, the first mating member is formed on one of the base and holder, and

wherein the second mating member is formed on the other of the base and holder; and

a hinge formed between the holder and the camera to allow the camera to be moved relative to the holder.

2. The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the first mating member is a receptacle formed to extend from a support of the base.

3. The device as recited in claim 2, wherein the second mating member is a first opening formed in the holder, which opening is larger than the receptacle.

4. The device as recited in claim 2, wherein a recess is formed between the support and the receptacle.

5. The device as recited in claim 4, wherein the second mating member is a first opening formed in the holder, which first opening is larger than the receptacle, and a second opening that is continuous with the first opening and receives by an interference fit the recess formed in the base.

6. The device as recited in claim 5, wherein the interference fit includes a projection formed on the second opening, and a detent formed in the

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recess.

7. The device as recited in claim 6, wherein the projection is formed on a flexible portion of the holder.

8. The device as recited in claim 6, wherein the projection is two projections, each extending into the second opening in opposition to the other.

9. The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the base is adhered by one of an adhesive, Velcro and suction cups.

10. The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the hinge includes a shaft formed in the holder with a slit therein, an L-shaped pin, a first end of which rotatably fits into the slit in the shaft, and a second end of which fits non-movably on the camera, and a spring which surrounds the shaft and exerts inward pressure on the shaft and pin, and

wherein the first end rotates in a frictional arrangement in the shaft.

11. The device as recited in claim 10, wherein a pair of the hinges is formed between the holder and the camera.

12. The device as recited in claim 5, further comprising a separate stand for receiving the holder, the stand having a third mating member formed thereon, so that the second and third mating members cooperate to removably engage the stand and the holder.

13. The device as recited in claim 12, wherein the third mating member is a receptacle formed to extend from an extension on the stand.

14. The device as recited in claim 13, wherein a recess is formed between the extension and the receptacle of the stand.

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15. The device as recited in claim 14, wherein the stand has an axis, and the holder and the stand are removably engaged by placing the first opening of the holder over the receptacle of the stand perpendicular relative to the stand axis, and sliding the holder in the direction of the stand axis such that the second opening of the holder engages the receptacle of the stand by an interference fit.

16. The device as recited in claim 15, wherein the interference fit includes a projection formed on one of the second opening of the holder and the recess of the stand, and a detent formed in the other of the recess of the stand and the second opening of the holder.

17. A device for mounting a camera relative to a computer, comprising:

a base including a receptacle extending from a support, which support is adhered to the computer with an adhesive;

a camera holder having an opening which is larger than and receives the receptacle in removable engagement; and

a hinge formed between the holder and the camera to allow the camera to be moved relative to the holder.

18. The device as recited in claim 17, wherein a recess is formed between the support and the receptacle,

wherein the opening includes a rib, and

wherein the holder and the base are removably engaged by placing the opening over the receptacle, and sliding the holder such that the rib is received in the recess.

19. The device as recited in claim 18, wherein the opening includes a projection, and the recess includes a detent, and

wherein the projection is received in the detent via an interference fit.

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20. The device as recited in claim 17, wherein the hinge includes a shaft formed in the holder with a slit therein, an L-shaped pin, a first end of which rotatably fits into the slit in the shaft, and a second end of which fits non-movably on the camera, and a spring which surrounds the shaft and exerts inward pressure on the shaft and pin, and

wherein the first end rotates in a frictional arrangement in the shaft.

21. The device as recited in claim 20, wherein a pair of the hinges is formed between the holder and the camera.

22. The device as recited in claim 17, further comprising a separate stand for receiving the holder, the stand having a receptacle formed to extend from an extension on the stand, so that the receptacle on the stand and the opening on the holder cooperate to removably engage the stand with the holder.

23. The device as recited in claim 22, wherein a recess is formed between the extension support and the receptacle of the stand.

24. The device as recited in claim 23, wherein the stand has an axis, and the holder and the stand are removably engaged by placing the opening of the holder over the receptacle of the stand perpendicular relative to the stand axis, and sliding the holder in the direction of the axis such that the opening of the holder engages the receptacle of the stand by an interference fit.

25. The device as recited in claim 24, wherein the interference fit includes a projection formed on the second opening of the holder, and a detent formed in the recess of the stand.

26. A device for mounting a camera relative to a portable computer having a first housing, and a second housing, movable relative the first housing, having a front portion for a screen, and having a rear portion opposite

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the front portion, comprising:

a base adhered to the rear portion, and including a receptacle formed to extend from a support of the base, which base is adhered via an adhesive between the support and the rear portion of the portable computer, and a recess is formed between the support and the receptacle;

a camera holder having a first opening which corresponds to but is larger than the receptacle, and a second opening that is continuous with the first opening and receives the recess formed in the base; and

a hinge formed between the holder and the camera to allow the camera to be moved relative to the holder,

wherein the base has an axis, and the holder and the base are removably engaged by placing the first opening over the receptacle perpendicular relative to the axis, and sliding the holder in the direction of the axis such that the second opening engages the receptacle by an interference fit,

wherein the interference fit includes a projection formed on the second opening, received in a corresponding detent formed in the recess, and

wherein the projection is formed on a flexible portion of the holder.

27. The device as recited in claim 26, wherein the hinge includes a shaft formed in the holder with a slit therein, an L-shaped pin, a first end of which rotatably fits into the slit in the shaft, and a second end of which fits non-movably on the camera, and a spring which surrounds the shaft and exerts inward pressure on the shaft and pin, and

wherein the first end rotates in a frictional arrangement with the shaft.

28. The device as recited in claim 26, further comprising:
a separate stand for receiving the holder, the stand having a receptacle formed to extend from an extension of the stand; and
a recess formed between the extension support and the receptacle,
wherein the stand has an axis, and the holder and the base are removably engaged by placing the first opening of the holder over the receptacle

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of the stand perpendicular relative to the stand axis, and sliding the holder in the direction of the axis such that the second opening of the holder engages the receptacle of the stand by an interference fit, and

wherein the interference fit includes a projection formed on the second opening of the holder engaging a detent formed in the recess of the stand.

29. A method for mounting a camera on a computer, comprising the steps of:

adhering a base to a portion of the computer that is spaced from a screen, said base having an axis;

moving a camera holder perpendicularly relative to the axis, so that an opening formed in the holder receives a first mating member formed on a portion the base; and

moving the holder in a direction along the axis so that a second mating member formed on the holder removably engages the first mating member of the base.

30. The method as recited in claim 29, wherein the adhering step comprises the step of applying adhesive between the portion of the computer and the base.

31. The method as recited in claim 29, wherein the step of moving the holder in the direction along the axis further comprises the step of outwardly flexing a portion of the holder.

32. The method as recited in claim 31, wherein the step of flexing comprises the step of engaging a projection formed on the holder with a detent formed on the base.

33. The method as recited in claim 29, further comprising the steps of:

providing a separate stand with an axis;

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moving the camera holder perpendicularly relative to the axis of the stand, so that the opening formed in the holder receives a third mating member formed on the stand; and

moving the holder in a direction along the axis of the stand, so that the second mating member formed on the holder engages the third mating member of the stand.

34. The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the step of moving the holder along the axis of the stand further comprises the step of outwardly flexing a portion of the holder.

35. The method as recited in claim 34, wherein the step of flexing the holder comprises the step of engaging a projection formed on the holder with a detent formed on the stand.

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